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LETTER DATED 28 JANUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UGANDA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions of my Government, I have the honour to forward herewith the text of the Joint Communiqué of the East African Heads of State Summit, which took place at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania on 22 January 1999 (see annex). The Summit was a significant milestone in African regional cooperation.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Prof. SEMAKULA KIWANUKA
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Uganda
to the United Nations

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Annex

Joint Communiqué of the East African Heads of State Summit

1. The Heads of State of the three East African Co-operation Member States, their Excellencies Presidents Daniel Toroitich Arap Moi of the Republic of Kenya, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of the Republic of Uganda and Benjamin William Mkapa of the United Republic of Tanzania, met in Arusha on 22 January 1999, to review the progress in the East African co-operation since their last Summit meeting on 28 April 1997.

2. The Heads of State met in a warm and cordial atmosphere under the Chairmanship of H.E. President Daniel Toroitich Arap Moi. They discussed bilateral and Regional, Continental and International issues of common interest with regard to the East African Co-operation. They noted with appreciation the progress being made by the Commission in implementing co-operation programmes and activities.

3. Since the last Summit meeting in April 1997, progress has been made in various areas, including the following:

   i. Harmonization of policies leading to the establishment of a single market and investment area in East Africa:

      - Implementation of 80% COMESA Preferential Tariff reduction by the three Member States;

      - Decision to adopt zero Tariff rates with effect from 1 July 1999, on all products excluding an agreed list of products to be subjected to a maximum 10% surcharge for the purpose of protection of infant industries and public revenue; and the removal of the Non-Tariff barriers;

      - Agreement on a macro-economic framework for convergence;

      - Decision to harmonize the policies of the three securities authorities with regard to trading practices in the three stock exchanges and a programme for the cross-listing of stocks.

ii **DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE:**

- Initiation of measures to mobilize funds for implementation of the East African road network project.

- Progress in the development of an East African energy master plan;

- Tripartite agreement on road transport; and

- Tripartite agreement on inland waterways transport.

iii **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT:**

- Progress in the development of an East African research and development strategy;

- Progress in the revitalization of institutional co-operation among the Universities of East Africa through the Inter-University Council for East Africa.

iv **POLITICAL CO-OPERATION:**

- Memorandum of understanding on foreign policy co-ordination.

4. The Heads of state directed the Commission to follow up the implementation process in all areas of co-operation.

5. The Heads of State noted the progress being made in the negotiation of the Treaty for the establishment of the East African Community and the participation of the East African people in the treaty-making process. They directed the Commission to complete the remaining stages of the Treaty-making process in time for signing of the Treaty on schedule, by 30 July 1999.

6. The Heads of State reviewed the initiatives being taken towards the management of the Lake Victoria basin and its resources. They directed the Commission to work out an appropriate institutional arrangement for the overall management and rational utilization of the shared resources of Lake Victoria. They noted the progress being made in the control of the water hyacinth at national and regional levels and directed the Commission to expedite the process of eradication of the menace.

7. The Heads of State noted the progress being made with regard to the private sector development and welcomed the proposal to hold a regional conference on the private sector in October 1999, to be followed by an international investors Conference for East Africa in February 2000.

8. The Heads of State exchanged views on regional issues, including the issue of terrorism, particularly on the terrorist bomb blasts in Nairobi and Dar Es Salaam on 7 August 1998 and directed the Commission to set up mechanism at regional level to prevent recurrence of similar incidents.

9. The Heads of State reviewed the situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo and reiterated their call for peaceful resolution of the conflict in accordance with their Nairobi Communique of 18 October 1998.

10. The Heads of State re-affirmed their commitment to the ideals of the East African Co-operation, which include, among others, regional unity, peace, stability, sustainable and balanced growth and equitable development of the partner States.

11. The Heads of State noted with appreciation the steady progress made towards regional integration and commended the Commission and the Secretariat for discharging their duties and responsibilities effectively.

12. Their Excellencies Presidents Daniel Toroitich Arap Moi of Kenya and Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of Uganda thanked their host, His Excellency President Benjamin William Mkapa and the people of Tanzania, for the cordial, warm reception and hospitality extended to them and their respective delegations during their stay in Arusha.

DONE AT ARUSHA, THIS 22ND DAY OF JANUARY 1999.

Sgd.

H.E. DANIEL TOROITICH ARAP MOI
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

H.E. BENJAMIN WILLIAM MKAPA
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

H.E. YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA